

opportunities for car- and van-pooling programs, road improvements, and by strengthening centers that have /public transportation programs or potential.

i Will The State Plan Force Us To Leave The Suburbs To Live In The Cities?

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The New Jersey Legislature has directed the State Planning Commission to "revitalize urban centers..." Does this mean that we are to abandon die suburbs in order to achieve this goal? Will all the new growth be forced into the cities? Of course not!! Various levels of growth have been projected for regions throughout the State. The planning process will enable each municipality to prepare for that growth and manage it well.

The State Plan will also provide a mechanism for State agencies to coordinate their plans and budgeting decisions. Each will be working together to share information and channel infrastructure funds for maintenance and improvements most effectively. Priorities will be established to maximize the

investments already made by New Jersey's taxpayers. In this way, the cities will become more attractive places to live and work, and development pressures in the suburbs will be less burdensome.

The market appeal of our older urban centers, such as Hoboken, Jersey City, New Brunswick, the Camden Waterfront and Newark, is already evident. Concentrated reinvestment and revitalization will broaden that appeal in urban areas throughout the State. Cultural facilities and retailing interests will be bolstered by new investments by the public and private sectors. Middle and upper income households that prefer the convenience and diversity of an urban lifestyle, will have more options available to them.

The State Development and Redevelopment Plan offers a vision of renewal and rebirth *for* New Jersey's cities, one that will make all of New Jersey a viable, vibrant place of which we can all be proud.

achieve a common goal: a better New Jersey for the next generation.

We May Need A Plan, But Do We Need This One?

Most New Jerseyans agree that we must manage the State's future growth in order to continue to attract new businesses and jobs. They see our environmental resources as economic assets that shape our high quality of life and standard of living and feel strongly about protecting them. And yet, others have argued that the State Plan will protect our natural resources at the expense of our economic development. They are also concerned that the early draft documents issued by the State Planning Commission do not reflect these concerns, and are troubled by the fact that there has not been much public participation in developing these documents.

Early drafts have been presented for public reaction, but are not - by any stretch of the imagination - carved in stone. In fact, the State Planning Act requires a "bottoms up" approach to the planning process, called "cross- acceptance." Cross-acceptance is a bold planning

initiative which gives citizens an active role in planning the future of their communities with their local and county governments. During cross-acceptance, there will be significant opportunities to discuss the interests of environmental protection and economic development, and a host of others as well. The State Development and Redevelopment Plan will become New Jersey's growth management plan only after the cross-acceptance dialogue is completed. (A detailed description on cross-acceptance, is available in the accompanying brochure.) .

Will The State Plan Prohibit New Growth In Most Of The State?

A common misconception about the planning process involves the charge that the State Development and Redevelopment Plan will result in fully two-thirds of the State being closed down to future development. This is merely a myth that has been perpetuated by some groups and individuals that either do not understand the Plan, or have been motivated by other reasons to mischaracterize its